

# RESOURCES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY 2008 HURRICANES



**LOUISIANA  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**



**LOUISIANA  
WORKFORCE  
COMMISSION**

RESOURCE	SERVICES	WHERE TO GO
<b>Free Counseling and Technical Assistance</b>	Louisiana Business Counseling Centers, sponsored by Louisiana Economic Development (LED), U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Louisiana Small Business Development Center Network (LSBDC) and regional economic partners, offer free one-on-one counseling, including help with identifying financial assistance sources and filling out disaster loan paperwork.	For center locations, contact LED's Business Recovery Information Center: <b>877.610.3533</b> , or visit <b>LouisianaForward.com/BizHelp</b> .
<b>Disaster Loans for Physical Damage</b>	SBA offers loans for businesses or non-profit organizations with physical damage (repair or replace damaged property like buildings, inventory, furniture, machinery).	<b>SBA: 800.659.2955</b> , or e-mail <b>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</b> , or visit a Louisiana Business Counseling Center.
<b>Disaster Loans for Working Capital</b>	SBA offers loans to cover operating expenses and provide working capital for businesses, non-profits and small agricultural co-ops experiencing financial loss as a result of hurricanes Gustav or Ike.	<b>SBA: 800.659.2955</b> , or e-mail <b>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</b> , or visit a Louisiana Business Counseling Center.
<b>Workforce Assistance</b>	Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) offers online job postings and opportunities to access candidates seeking employment to meet workforce needs.	<b>LWC: www.LAWorks.net</b>
<b>Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)</b>	LWC offers unemployment benefits for individuals whose jobs have been interrupted in the parishes declared eligible for public assistance. Benefits also available for those otherwise not eligible under the state unemployment system (self-employed, farmers, fishermen, etc).	<b>LWC: www.LAWorks.net</b> for information or to file a claim, or call <b>800.957.1605</b> or <b>866.259.6345</b> .
<b>Extension of Federal and State Tax Filing Deadlines</b>	<b>Federal:</b> The IRS has postponed several filing and payment deadlines until Jan. 5, 2009 for businesses in parishes affected by Gustav.  <b>State:</b> Louisiana Department of Revenue will recognize the IRS extension for income-related taxes and has postponed the filing and payment deadlines for most other business taxes due in Sept. 2008 until Oct. 15, 2008.	<b>Federal: 800.TAX.FORM (800.829.3676)</b> , or visit <b>www.irs.gov</b> .  <b>State: 225.219.7318</b> , or visit <b>www.revenue.louisiana.gov</b> .
<b>Temporary Housing</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers resources for displaced business owners, workers and individuals to cover housing needs and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance or other programs.	<b>FEMA: 800.621.FEMA (3362)</b> , or visit <b>www.fema.gov</b> or a FEMA Disaster Recovery Center.
<b>State and Federal Contracting Opportunities</b>	Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) provides one-on-one counseling and technical assistance to businesses seeking contracts and subcontracts with federal, state and local governments.  LED Bonding Assistance Program is a revolving pool for new bonding guarantees, which provides small companies the ability to bid on private and public jobs.	<b>PTAC: 800.206.3545</b> or <b>www.la-ptac.org</b> .  <b>Federal (FEMA): www.ccr.gov</b> to register; call <b>888.227.2423</b> with questions; review opportunities at <b>www.FedBizOpps.gov</b> .  <b>State: www.doa.louisiana.gov/OSP/LaPAC/pubmain.asp</b> or <b>www.dotd.la.gov/mgmt_finance/procurement/home.asp</b>  <b>LED: 225.342.4320</b> or visit <b>LouisianaForward.com/BondingAssistance</b> .